

## BILL

*Supplement to the Sierra Leone Gazette Vol. CLXIV, No. 11*  
*dated 9th March, 2023*

---

### THE SIERRA LEONE PUBLIC TRANSPORT AUTHORITY ACT, 2023

#### ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section.

#### PART I—PRELIMINARY

1. Interpretation
2. Application of Act
3. Non application of Act

#### PART II—ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AUTHORITY

4. Establishment of the Sierra Leone Public Transport Authority
5. Common seal
6. Role of the Minister
7. Composition of the Board
8. Tenure of members of the Board
9. Powers and duties of the Board
10. Filling of vacancy
11. Meetings of the Board
12. Disclosure of interest
13. Immunity of members of the Board
14. Remuneration and allowance of members of the Board
15. Committees of Board
16. Standing orders

#### PART III—FUNCTIONS OF THE AUTHORITY

17. Functions of the Authority
18. Independence of Authority

PART IV-MANAGEMENT OF THE AUTHORITY

19. Secretariat
20. Regional offices
21. Director -General
22. Functions of the Director-General
23. Removal or suspension of Director -General
24. Deputy Director-General
25. Other staff
26. Departments
27. Secondment
28. Protection of officers

PART V-FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

29. Funds of the Authority
30. Books of account
31. Financial year of Authority
32. Annual report

PART VI-PUBLIC TRANSPORT OPERATIONS

33. Operator route and zonal licence
34. Suspension or cancellation of a licence
35. Renewal of licence
36. Public transport vehicle standards
37. Standards for drivers
38. Standards for public transport operations
39. Implementation of standards
40. Service planning
41. Designation of public transport routes
42. Bus operations
43. Traffic management

PART VII-MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

44. Regulations
45. Repeal and savings

No.



2023

Sierra Leone

**A BILL ENTITLED**

**THE SIERRA LEONE PUBLIC TRANSPORT AUTHORITY ACT 2023** Short title.

**Being an Act to provide for the establishment of the Sierra Leone Public Transport Authority as a regulatory body for public transportation services and to provide for other related matters.**

[ ] Date of commencement.

ENACTED by the President and Members of Parliament in this present Parliament assembled.

## PART I – PRELIMINARY

Interpretation. 1. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires -

"Authority" means the Sierra Leone Public Transport Authority established under section 4;

"Board" means the Board established under section 7;

"Chairman" means Chairman of the Board appointed under section 7;

"designated route" means a transport route operated under a concession by a company or cooperative;

"Director General" means the Director-General appointed under section 21;

"licence" means a licence issued under this Act;

"member" means a member of the Board;

"Minister" means the Minister responsible for transport and "Ministry" shall be construed accordingly;

"operator" means a provider of public transport services"

Application of Act

2. This Act shall apply to all matters pertaining to the operation and maintenance of public transportation services

Non-application of Act.

3. This Act shall not apply to transportation by air and sea.

## PART II-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AUTHORITY

Establishment of the Sierra Leone Public Transport Authority

4. (1) There is hereby established a body to be known as the Sierra Leone Public Transport Authority.

(2) The Authority shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and capable of acquiring, holding and disposing of property, whether movable or immovable, and of suing and be sued in its corporate name and subject to this Act do all things which a body corporate may lawfully do .

5. (1) The Authority shall have a common seal the affixing of which shall be authenticated by the signatures of - Common seal

- (a) the Chairman or other member of the Board generally or specifically authorised by the Board for that purpose;
- (b) the Director-General or other person authorised by him for that purpose.

(2) Every document purporting to be an instrument executed or issued by or on behalf of the Authority and to be sealed with the common seal of the Authority authenticated in the manner stated in subsection (1) shall be deemed to be so executed or issued without further proof unless the contrary is proved.

(3) In appropriate cases the seal may be affixed to documents outside Sierra Leone.

6. (1) The Authority shall be under the general supervision of the Minister. Role of the Minister.

(2) Notwithstanding the generality of subsection (1) the Minister shall be responsible for the following -

- (a) issuing directives on policy matters
- (b) formulating policies and its implementation ;
- (c) building and sustaining an enabling environment for the operations of the Authority;and

- (d) overseeing the proper implementation of this Act.

Composition  
of the Board

7. (1) The governing body of the Authority shall be a Board which shall subject to this Act control and supervise the Authority.

(2) The Board shall consist of the following non-executive Board Members-

- (a) a chairman with extensive knowledge and proven experience in managing public transport;
- (b) two females with knowledge and experience relevant to the functions of the Authority;
- (c) a senior representative from the following bodies-
  - (i) Sierra Leone Motors Drivers and General Workers Union;
  - (ii) Sierra Leone Commercial Motor Bike Riders Union; and
  - (iii) Sierra Leone Commercial Tricycle Association;
- (d) a senior representative each from the following Institutions-
  - (i) the Sierra Leone Police;
  - (ii) the Sierra Leone Road Safety Authority;
  - (iii) Sierra Leone Roads Authority
- (e) the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry ; and
- (f) the Director-General

(3) The Chairman and members referred to under paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (2) shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister and subject to the approval of Parliament

8 (1) The Chairman and other member referred paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (2) of section 7, shall hold office for a period of 3 years and shall be eligible for reappointment for another term

Tenure of  
Members of  
the Board

(2) A person shall cease to be a member of the Board on any of the following grounds-

- (a) inability to perform the functions of office by reason of infirmity of mind or body;
- (b) proven misconduct;
- (c) convicted and sentenced for an offence involving fraud or dishonestly ;
- (d) failing to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board without reasonable excuse;
- (e) no longer a member of the institution that he is representing ; and
- (f) resignation from office by submitting a written notice to the Minister.

9. The Board shall be responsible for the following-

Powers and  
duties of the  
Board

- (a) overseeing the sound and proper management of the Authority;
- (b) establishing and administering codes of conduct;
- (c) determining and formulating policies to secure the efficient implementation of the functions of the Authority ; and
- (d) setting targets and standards to enhance the overall performance of the Authority

Filling of  
Vacancy

10 (1) Where the Chairman dies, resigns or is removed from office under subsection (2) of section 8 the Board shall elect one of its members to act as Chairman until another is appointed in his stead and in the case of other member the Chairman shall arrange subject to this Act to have another person appointed to the Board to fill the vacancy

(2) Where a person is appointed to fill a vacancy under subsection (1) the person shall hold office for the remainder of the term of the person he is replacing and shall subject to this Act be eligible for re-appointment

Meetings of  
the Board.

11. (1) The Board shall meet for the dispatch of its business once every quarter but not more than ten times at such time and place as the Chairman may determine

(2) The Chairman shall preside at every meeting of the Board if present and in his absence the members present shall appoint a member from among themselves to preside at the meeting.

(3) A majority of the members of the Board may by notice in writing signed by them request the Chairman to summon a special meeting of the Board for the purpose stated in the notice.

(4) The Chairman or in his absence the member appointed to act on his behalf shall summon a special meeting within 5 days of receipt of the notice referred to under subsection (3)

(5) The quorum at any meeting of the Board shall be 5.

(6) Any question which fails to be determined by the Board at any of its meetings shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the members present and voting

(7) The Chairman or other member presiding shall have a casting vote where there is an equality of votes.